



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Transit
Administration**

Headquarters

400 Seventh St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Colleague:

The Federal Transit Administration (**FTA**) invites interested parties to participate in the new and exciting Advanced Public Transportation Systems (APTS) Mobile Showcase Program. This program will demonstrate and evaluate the integration of APTS technologies (e.g., Automatic Vehicle Location, Computer Aided Dispatch, Electronic Fare Payment, Automatic Passenger Counters, Traveler Information, Video Surveillance, Collision Avoidance, Lane Keeping Systems and other technologies) on a transit bus. A Request for Participation is being published in a February edition of the Commerce Business Daily (<http://cbdnet.access.gpo.gov/>) and is available on the **FTA's website** (<http://www.fta.dot.gov/new/>) and the Volpe National Transportation Systems Center's **website** (<http://www.volpe.dot.gov/procure/current.html>). The closing date is Friday, March 12, 1999, 5:00 PM Eastern Standard Time (EST).

To help address any issues, you and your staff members are personally invited to take part in the APTS Mobile Showcase Program Pre-Proposal Information meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to give participants a brief overview of the APTS Mobile Showcase Program, proposal requirements and evaluation criteria and to answer any questions. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 17, 1999 and begin at 1:00 PM EST at the:

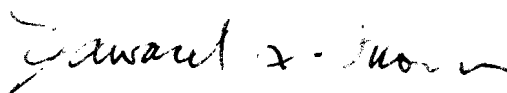
Holiday Inn Capitol
550 C Street, SW
Washington, DC 20024
202-479-4000 (tel)
L'Enfant Plaza MetroRail Station (Green, Yellow, Orange, and Blue Line)
Maryland Ave and 7th Street entrance/exit

If you can't participate, FTA will also accept written questions submitted by 5:00 PM EST, Friday, February 12, 1999, in order to allow time for the FTA to formulate its responses. Oral questions will be addressed at the meeting **after** responses to the written questions are provided. Written questions must be e-mailed or faxed to:

Mr. Matthew Rabkin
APTS Mobile Showcase Program Manager
rabkin@volpe.dot.gov
6 17-494-3260

FTA looks forward to your participation in this new and exciting program! If you plan on attending, please RSVP to Mr. Rabkin by Tuesday, February 16, 1999. If you can't attend, we would appreciate your sending a staff representative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edward L. Thomas". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Edward L. Thomas
Associate Administrator for
Research, Demonstration and Innovation